

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification at page 52, lines 8-22 as follows:

DBA/1 LacJ mice provide a murine model of human inflammation. Ten to twenty DBA/1 LacJ mice per group were injected with type II collagen in complete Freund's adjuvant (CII/CFA) on day 0, and with type II collagen in incomplete Freund's adjuvant (CII/IFA) on day 21 to induce arthritis (see Figure 17). The study groups included animals treated with 200 µg of suppressive ODN A151 (SEQ ID NO: 2), control ODN 1612 (SEQ ID NO: 29) or PBS on days -3, 0, 3, 7, 10, 14, 18 and 21. The incidence of arthritis and clinical score were monitored twice weekly. Antigen-specific humoral and cellular immune responses, and local expression of pro-inflammatory cytokines, were also investigated. Table IV shows the incidence of arthritis and clinical score on day 56 of treatment. Treatment with ODN A151 significantly reduced both the percentage of mice that developed arthritis (Figure 18A), and the arthritis clinical score (Figure 18B).